Basic Price of Petrol

†3339. SHRI LAJPAT RAI:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the amount of basic price of the petrol is less than the total amount imposed through taxes; and

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the per litre basic prices of the petrol are Rs. 15.15, Rs. 15.25, Rs. 15.57 and Rs. 15.45 in Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata and Chennai respectively whereas the retail prices of the petrol after taxes per litre are Rs. 38.59, Rs. 33.48 Rs. 34.99 and Rs. 36.39 in the said cities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Effective 16.4.2003, the position of retail selling price of petrol is as follows:

(in Rs./litre)

	Mumbai	Delhi	Kolkata	Chennai
Retail Selling Price Without Duties & Taxes	13.31	13.64	13.36	13.04
Retail Selling Price With Duties & Taxes	37.52	32.49	34.00	35.48

India's Oil Reserves

3340. SHRI JHUMUK LAL BHENDIA:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what are India's oil reserves and how long can they last;

(b) whether there would be a major hike in oil price in case Iraq goes to war; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, to what extent Government would control oil prices in the country in accordance with international oil market and keeping the oil reserves in mind?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) The stock of crude oil and petroleum products in the country, including those in transit, are sufficient to provide for a cover for around two months for major petroleum products.

(b) The prices of petroleum products have come down after USA attacked Iraq.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Fresh Capital Investment in MRPL by ONGC

†3341. SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :
SHRI LAJPAT RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) has taken a decision to make fresh capital investment in Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd;

(b) if so, the quantum of fresh capital investment decided to be made;

(c) the need for making this capital investment; and

(d) the total participation of ONGC in Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Ltd.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) With the acquisition of 37.38% sake of Aditya Birla Group (ABG) in Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL) for Rs. 59.43 crore on 3.3.2003 and the infusion of additional Rs. 600 crore on 28.3.2003, as part of the approved Debt Restructuring Package, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) has acquired 51% stake in the equity of MRPL. ONGC has no plan to make fresh capital investment in MRPL, as of today.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.